

Weekly Column for February 10, 2005

Wow, what a storm that was! Pardon my sarcasm, but after hearing about this perfect storm for several days, it was quite amusing to watch it fizzle out. Not to mention all the money we saved in overtime and salt, as well as not having to worry about the commute this afternoon. I guess one of the perks of being a meteorologist is that when you're wrong in the winter, most people will like you even more.

However, one thing the latest impending monster storm had me thinking about was the warm weather we'll all be seeing in just a few months. It is going to be a great summer in the City of Troy.

Of course we'll have the annual Earth Day Festival in Riverfront Park that will take place on May 1st, which will get everyone in the mood for the heat that June and July bring.

Then in early June, the Flag Day Parade takes center stage. The largest parade of its sort for Flag Day in the country, this year it promises to be better than ever.

We're also working very hard to put together the Second Annual River Street Festival, which I am happy to announce will take place the bright and sunny day of June 18th. Last year's festival was beyond exciting, with thousands of people filling the streets of downtown to shop, eat and listen to some great music. We're setting high goals for the festival this year, and want it to become *THE* place to go to kickoff the summer season in the Capital District.

And just a reminder that while we're still in the snow-covered months, there is no excuse to not use the great facilities we have available to us each day.

As many of you know, Frear Park Golf Course was recently named one of the Top 8 places to go sledding in the Northeast. And it's right here, and it's free. You can't beat that. Frear Park also happens to be a terrific spot to go cross-country skiing.

And finally, my last cold note, I promise, is that we are once again opening up the Knickerbacker Ice Rink during Presidents Week for free skating. So many kids have the week off, it only makes sense to open it up for the entire City to use, free of charge. A schedule will be forthcoming in the next week, and we'll be sure to post it on the website.

Stay warm everyone, and hopefully dry as well. Have a great weekend.

Harry J Tutunjian
Mayor of Troy